

In re Patent Application of:
ROY
Serial No. 10/780,258
Filing Date: **February 17, 2004**

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 5-15, 18-27, 29 and 31-37 remain in this application. Claims 2, 4, 16, 17, 28 and 30 have been previously cancelled. Claims 1, 15 and 27 have been amended.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the detailed study of the application and notes the rejection of all pending claims as rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0143569 to Gross et al. (hereinafter "Gross").

In the rejection, the Examiner stressed the rejection over Gross and indicated by underlining the use of the term "at least one" of the default order of mail headers and in an order based on associative information about the electronic mail provider.

Applicant has amended the claims to delete the phrase "at least one of" such that the claim now recites that the mobile office platform is operative for providing only the N-most recent mail headers of electronic messages to the mail user agent in a default order of mail headers provided by the electronic mail protocol used for accessing an electronic mailbox and in an order based on associative information about the electronic mail provider and/or electronic mailbox to be accessed.

The associative data aids in retrieving the N-most recent mail headers. This associative data could be the name of an electronic mail protocol, a version of the electronic mail protocol, the name of an electronic mail server, or the domain name of an internet service provider as non-limiting examples.

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The mobile office platform could view a last item, a second-to-last item, and other previous items, compare time stamps and decide what order for mail headers is to be implemented and use the associative information to assist. A virtual mailbox is thus formed that is confined to a moving window within the user's mailbox.

Gross is directed to a system that provides quick and efficient searches. The system includes an email search interface with an email-specific attribute search field and a file search interface. Gross allows incremental or reactive searching of search targets that include files, emails, email attachments, web pages, specific databases and similar targets. In Gross, a search is performed incrementally and search results are narrowed substantially after each character in a search string is entered by a user.

During a search process using the system of Gross, a user has immediate feedback as the search string is entered to decide on the desirability of entering additional search characters, entering a new search string, or deleting one or more search string characters. An email search mode interface has an email-specific attribute search field that includes a date field, a from field, and a sender field or a file search mode interface with file-specific attribute search fields, including a file name field, file type field, date field, file size field and path field. Gross uses a database or repository that is configured as multiple files and/or databases stored on an internal or external storage device of a user terminal. This database includes an index that can include the item content and the time, date, item size, or other attributes from when the index entry was created and/or

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last updated. Thus, the index information is used to determine if a file has been previously indexed or modified since it was last indexed, and therefore, needs to be indexed or re-indexed.

As shown in the drawings of Gross and explained in its description, a local search engine 107 uses one or more of the indexes created by the index engine 103 to locate email, files, cached web pages, databases and the like in response to a user query. For example, the local search engine 107 can access the index 105 and locate corresponding matches. The search engine returns excerpts or headlines from relevant matches and returns links to the matches. User queries can be passed to one or more remote search engines with the results displayed to the user. This is based upon user entered commands. This allows Gross to provide for quick and efficient searches and allows the user to perform a search incrementally and determine whether a search should be continued as the user enters a search string on a keyboard. As a result, the user has immediate feedback as the search string is entered to decide whether the search should be continued. The email application 109 explained in Gross is explained as being integrated with the browser.

Nowhere does Gross disclose or suggest the claimed invention where a mobile office platform is operative with the email user agent and provides only the N-most recent mail headers of electronic mail messages to the mail user agent in a default order of mail headers provided by the electronic mail protocol used for accessing an electronic mailbox and in an order based on associative information about the electronic mail provider and/or electronic mailbox to be accessed.

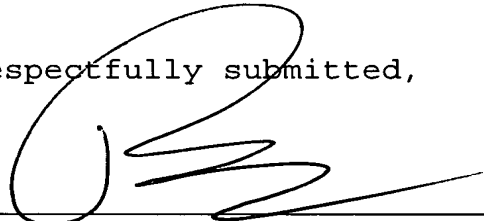
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The claimed invention overcomes the prior art problems associated with some mail protocols that do not support the retrieval of subsets of electronic mail headers in a message list in which a large number of message headers are typically retrieved and there is a limited space to hold the data pertaining to the message list in the mobile device and its mail user agent.

Thus, the claimed invention is directed to a substantially different problem and solves this problem in a much different manner and function as compared to Gross.

Applicant contends that the present case is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests that the Examiner mail a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due. If the Examiner has any questions or suggestions for placing this case in condition for allowance, the undersigned attorney would appreciate a telephone call.

Respectfully submitted,



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